

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 NIC-01 SAM-01 OIC-02 /079 W

----- 013537

P R 101507Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8129

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 2491

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FI, VS

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

KARJALAINEN-COUNTERING PRG EFFORTS TO

SEEK BILATERAL RECOGNITION

REF: STATE 266161

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFTEL INSTRUCTIONS, I TODAY
TOOK UP QUESTION OF PRG EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE RECOGNITION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER KARJALAINEN DURING OUR WORKING LUNCHEON MEETING. WHICH WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY POLITICAL SECTION CHIEF MATTI TUOVINEN.

2. DRAWING ON PARA 7 AND 8 OF REFTEL, AND PREVIOUS
MESSAGES MENTIONED IN PARA 9, I TOLD KARJALAINEN
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THAT USG WAS STRONGLY OPPOSED TO ANY TYPE OF RECOG-

NITION FOR PRG OR ELEVATION OF STATUS OF ITS REPRESENTATION, AND URGED FINLAND NOT TO TAKE ANY STEPS IN THIS DIRECTION.

3. KARJALAINEN SAID THAT FINLAND RECOGNIZES NEITHER GVN OR PRG AND THAT PRG ONLY HAS AN INFORMATION OFFICE IN HELSINKI WITHOUT ANY OFFICIAL OR DIPLOMATIC STATUS. HE MADE POINT THAT THERE WAS NO PRESENT INTENTION ON PART OF FINLAND TO RECOGNIZE PRG AND THAT THERE WAS A CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN JUST AN INFORMATION OFFICE AND A "PERMANENT MISSION" OR "GENERAL DELEGATION". AT SAME TIME HE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT A REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE TO GOF FOR RAISING OF STATUS OF PRG INFORMATION OFFICE, BUT CLAIMED THAT NO DECISION HAD BEEN MADE YET.

4. I TOLD KARJALAINEN THAT I WAS WELL AWARE OF FACT THAT FINLAND RECOGNIZED NEITHER GVN OR PRG. I POINTED OUT THAT WE FELT THAT FACT THAT FINLAND RECOGNIZED AND HAD DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH DRV, BUT NOT WITH GVN, WAS AN EXAMPLE OF AN UNBALANCED APPLICATION OF FINLAND'S POLICY OF RECOGNIZING DIVIDED STATES, SUCH AS TWO GERMANIES AND TWO KOREAS. I ALSO ADDED THAT I SAW DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN INFORMATION OFFICE WITHOUT ANY PARTICULAR STATUS AND A "PERMANENT MISSION" OR A "GENERAL DELEGATION", AND THAT THIS WAS EXACTLY POINT--THAT WE DID NOT WISH A BAD SITUATION TO BE MADE WORSE BY ANY ELEVATION OF STATUS OF INFORMATION OFFICE. I THEN ADDED THAT IN ADDITION TO OPPOSITION OF USG TO ANY SUCH STEP, FINNS SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE OF CERTAINTY THAT IT WOULD EVOKE A STRONG AND NEGATIVE REACTION IN CONGRESS AND US PRESS.

5. KARJALAINEN THEN TOOK POSITION THAT WHO COULD KNOW WHAT SITUATION REALLY WAS LIKE IN SOUTH VIETNAM. I REJOINED BY SAYING THAT AS FAR AS USG WAS CONCERNED, THERE WAS NO QUESTION BUT THAT GVN WAS ONLY LEGITIMATE AND EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT, THAT PRG DID NOT MEET INTERNATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR A

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GOVERNMENT, AND THAT PRG HAD NEITHER LIVED UP TO PARIS ACCORDS NOR SERIOUSLY ATTEMPTED TO REACH A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN VIETNAM.

6. KARJALAINEN REFUSED TO COMMIT HIMSELF OR GOF ON MATTER. I ASKED THAT FINNS IN ANY CASE TOUCH BASE WITH US BEFORE REACHING ANY DECISION SO THAT WE WOULD HAVE ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT OUR

VIEWS ON HIGHEST LEVEL, IF NEEDED.

7. GIVEN SWEDISH EXAMPLE, I AM NOT SANGUINE THAT
GOF CAN WITHSTAND INTERNAL, AND POSSIBLY EXTERNAL,
PRESSURE TO RAISE STATUS OF PRG INFORMATION OFFICE
TO SOMETHING SIMILAR TO THAT OF PRG "GENERAL
DELEGATION" IN STOCKHOLM. WE WILL IN ANY CASE TAKE
EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO REGISTER OUR OPPOSITION TO SUCH
A STEP.
KREHBIEL

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